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Casey reportedly says CIA didn't train Libya terrorists

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - CIA Director William J. Casey told the House Intelligence Committee yesterday that the spy agency has tentatively concluded "there was no official CIA involvement in Libyan terrorist training," the committee chairman said.

Rep. Edward P. Boland (D-Mass.) spoke with reporters after Casey and other CIA officials testified before the House panel behind closed doors for three hours.

The hearing focused on questions over the adequacy of an internal CIA investigation into possible links between the agency and two former agents, Edwin P. Wilson and Frank E. Terpil, accused of setting up a terrorist training project in Libya.

Boland said his committee has "a very deep concern because of the impact that these allegations have upon the agency. Of course, the CIA agrees with this, too."

The chairman said he was pleased by the CIA's cooperation with a committee inquiry into Wilson-Terpil situation. He added, "I'm satisfied with the agency's conduct at this point."

However, Boland indicated that the committee believes there are still discrepancies that need to be resolved between the CIA's official version and information from other sources about the Libyan-related activities.

Boland summarized main points which he said were contained in Casey's testimony, calling them the "tentative conclusions" of the CIA's internal investigation. These were, according to Boland:

- "There was no official CIA involvement in Libyan terrorist training."

- "There was no official CIA contact with Wilson or Terpil after their indictment."

- "There was no official CIA involvement in the recruitment of Green Berets for projects in Libya."